Program Preferences

Attachment 9 consists of the following items:

- ✓ **Program Preferences.** Attachment 9 contains detailed information on how the proposal will meet the program preferences described in the IRWM Guidelines.

The projects included in this Proposal meet six of the eight Program Preferences identified in the Proposition 84 Guidelines. Most of the projects meet more than one of the Program Preferences. This attachment details the specific Program Preferences that are met by each of the projects, the certainty that the Proposal projects will meet the Program Preferences, and the breadth and magnitude to which the Program Preferences will be met. The tables within this section refer to the following projects:

- Recycled Water and Plant Material Conversion Project for HOA Common Areas (RWPMC) Project
- Native Botanical Garden (Garden) Project
- Upper Valle de Los Caballos Recharge Project (Upper VDC) Project
- Implementing Nutrient Management in the Santa Margarita River Watershed – Phase II (SMR Nutrient) (interregional project with the San Diego IRWM Region- refer to Attachment 3)

Table 9-1 lists the name of each project and identifies which Program Preferences are met.

Table 9-1: Meeting Program Preferences

Program Preferences	Projects			
	RWPMC	Upper VDC	Garden	SMR Nutrient[1]
Includes Regional Projects or Programs	✓	✓	✓	✓
Integrates Projects within a Hydrologic Region				✓
Resolves Significant Water-Related Conflicts Within Region	✓			
Contributes to Attainment of one or more CALFED Objectives	✓		✓	
Addresses Critical Water Supply or Quality Needs for DAC				
Integrates Water Management with Land Use Planning	✓		✓	✓

Program Preferences

Program Preferences	Projects			
	RWPMC	Upper VDC	Garden	SMR Nutrient[1]
Eligible for SWFM Funding				
Addresses Statewide Priorities	✓	✓	✓	✓

[1]Interregional project with the San Diego IRWM Region

One of the Program Preferences is "Address Statewide Priorities" and all of the projects in this Proposal address one or more Statewide Priorities. **Table 9-2** lists the name of each project and identifies which Statewide Priorities are met.

Table 9-2: Meeting Statewide Priorities

Statewide Priorities	Projects			
	RWPMC	Upper VDC	Garden	SMR Nutrient[1]
Drought Preparedness	✓	✓	✓	
Use and Reuse Water More Efficiently	✓		✓	
Climate Change Response Actions	✓	✓	✓	
Expand Environmental Stewardship			✓	✓
Practice Integrated Flood Management				
Protect Surface Water Quality and Groundwater Quality		✓		✓
Improve Tribal Water and Natural Resources				
Ensure Equitable Distribution of Benefits			✓	

[1]Interregional project with the San Diego IRWM Region

Certainty that Proposal Will Meet Program Preferences

During the selection process, the projects in the Proposal underwent extreme scrutiny; therefore, there is great certainty that the projects selected for this Proposal will meet the Program Preferences. Project selection criteria follow the addendum, approved by the Regional

Program Preferences

Water Management Group in September 2010, to the USMW IRWM Plan. The projects were selected based on criteria designed to address the Proposition 84 Guidelines and achieve the regional IRWM Plan objectives including:

- **Plan Objectives:** The 2007 IRWM Plan Objectives were developed based upon IRWMP Program preferences and Regional needs. Projects that could not help the Region meet at least one plan objective were not selected, while those projects that could meet multiple objectives were favored.

- **Technical Justification:** Projects that could not substantiate their benefits nor show enough work done to justify their technical feasibility were not selected.

- **Readiness-to-Proceed:** Projects that could not substantiate their ability to proceed (both financially) before or upon receipt of grant funding were not selected

- **Achieves Proposition 84 Water Elements:** Projects that demonstrated the ability to achieve Statewide Priorities and Resource Management Strategies as defined in the Proposition 84 Guidelines were favored and ranked higher.

- **Promotes Cost Efficiency:** Projects that promote and achieve cost efficiency within the watershed while meeting other criteria were favored. Projects that did not have a cost efficiency benefit were not marginalized, but rather evaluated on meeting other criteria.

- **Watershed Approach:** Projects that would realize benefits across the watershed, integrating various Resource Management Strategies, and demonstrated the ability to meet regional objectives were favored and ranked well.

- **Sustainability Features:** Projects that included features, including water and environmental management, resulting in sustainable benefits within the watershed were ranked more favorably.

Once eligible projects were identified they were viewed in concert with each other to determine what suite of projects would best meet IRWM Program Preferences and Regional objectives.

The justification of the proposal's ability to meet the Preferences identified in **Tables 9-1 and 9-2** is described in detail as part of Attachment 7 and summarized in **Table 9-3** with a listing of the technical documents that support the benefits claimed by the projects.

Program Preferences

Table 9-3: Justification of Meeting Program Preferences

Project	Justification
RWPMC	*New Water Demand Offset Program Data Collection and Estimate of Average Conversion Cost Project Report*, RCWD, November 2009 **(Appendix C)**
Upper VDC	Project is Phase 2 of existing *Upper VDC Conjunctive Use Optimization Study Final Report* , May 2012 **(Appendix C)**
Garden	This project is not based upon any existing study , however given the scope of work , it can be easily correlated to meeting Program Preferences through its ability to improve land use management by building upon existing adjacent land uses to maximize recreational, habitat and educational benefits and met the statewide priorities identified in Table 9-2
SMR Nutrient[1]	• *Santa Margarita River Lagoon Monitoring Project: Data Usability and Assessment Review*, Field Measured Data, June 2009 • *Santa Margarita River Lagoon Monitoring Project: Data Usability and Assessment Review*, Laboratory Data, June 2009 • *United States Navy Environmental Sciences Branch of the Space and Naval Warfare systems Center Pacific* (SSC-PAC), 2012 • *Hydrological and Biological support to Lower Santa Margarita River Watershed Monitoring Program Water Years 2008-2009*, 2010

1. The SMR Nutrient Project is an intra-regional project with the San Diego IRWM Region. Since the project benefits both the USMW and San Diego regions, it is included here, however, the technical justification and supporting documentation is included as part of the San Diego IRWW Region Proposition 84 Round 2 Implementation Grant application.

Breadth and Magnitude to Which Program Preferences Will Be Met

The breadth and magnitude to which the Program Preferences will be met can be gauged by how the projects are meeting the IRWM Plan and project objectives. Table 9-4 provides both quantitative and qualitative data on the breadth and magnitude to which the proposal's projects meet the Program Preferences.

Program Preferences

Table 9-4: Breadth/Magnitude to Which Program Preferences are Achieved

Program Preference	Breadth/Magnitude to which Program Preferences will be Met			
	RWPMC	Upper VDC	Garden	SMR Nutrient[1]
Includes Regional Projects or Programs	Project will provide regional water supply benefits by offsetting potable imported water that could be used for a higher beneficial use in the Region.	Project will provide regional water supply benefits by improving the Regional supply reliability and optimizing existing regional storage potential and by converting imported supply into local groundwater supply sustainability	Project will indirectly provide regional water supply benefits by educating local residents on water use efficiency measures and encouraging regional water use efficiency behavior. Project will also provide a regional recreation and habitat benefit.	Project will improve multiple (both USMW and San Diego) Region's understanding of water quality needs and solutions and enhance water quality of entire Santa Margarita Watershed.
Integrates Projects within a Hydrologic Region				This project in an interregional project with the San Diego IRWM Region. That provides benefits for the entire Santa Margarita Watershed - which exists in both regions.
Resolves Significant Water-Related Conflicts Within Region	The Project will reduce demand on potable water supplies by 43 AFY (1290 AF over the life of the Project) which directly responds to the Water Conservation Act of 2009 requirements.	The project will reduce the demand on potable water supplies (treated MWD water) by 5,147 AFY, and instead utilize 5,147 AFY of untreated MWD supplies.		
Contributes to Attainment of one or more CALFED Objectives	The Project meets CALFED's Water Supply Objective by replacing 100% (43 AFY) of imported water (potable demands) through the use of water use efficiency and recycled water.			

Program Preferences

Program Preference	Breadth/Magnitude to which Program Preferences will be Met			
	RWPMC	**Upper VDC**	**Garden**	**SMR Nutrient[1]**
Integrates Water Management with Land Use Planning	The Project required coordination with the land use of HOA common areas to determine how best to maintain or even enhance current land use while improving water use efficiency and beneficial use through native plantings and irrigation system enhancements. The Project's use of native plants and water efficiency education provides a nexus between water and land management.		The Project will improve the land-use of the project site by enhancing its habitat, education and recreational value to the Region complementing and enhancing adjacent land uses with a similar focus. The Project's use of native plants and water efficiency education provides a nexus between water and land management.	The Project correlates water quality data with potential sources and examines the potential for reduction that will involve land management strategies.
Addresses Statewide Priorities	**Drought Preparedness/Use and Reuse of Water More Efficiently:** The Project replaces potable water with more drought tolerant water use efficiency (14 AFY) and recycled water supplies (29 AFY). The Project also educates on these issues for further potential regional reductions. **Climate Change:** Project adapts to climate change by decreasing water needs and using existing recycled water supplies, while also mitigating through the reduction of 40 MT of Co2 equivalent per year.	**Drought Preparedness:** The project will increase supply reliability in drought conditions by providing local long-term and seasonal storage through groundwater basin optimization. **Climate Change:** Project adapts to climate change by improving long-term and seasonal storage capacity. **Protect Groundwater Quality:** Project will increase recharge of basin by 3,250 AFY and help dilute current infiltration of contaminants through existing irrigation use.	**Drought Preparedness/Use and Reuse of Water More Efficiently:** The Project provides water use efficiency education through the use of native plants and improved irrigation efficiency. **Climate Change:** Project adapts to climate change by encouraging the decrease in water demand through reduction in irrigation supply needed. **Environmental Stewardship:** The project will increase the habitat and recreational areas by a ½ acre through planting	**Protect Surface Water Quality and Environmental Stewardship:** The project will develop nutrient and water quality goals to protect surface water and groundwater quality. These goals will be employed in the development of alternative nutrient water quality objectives in the Santa Margarita River Watershed to address the Water Quality Control Plan for the San Diego Basin Triennial update. The Project's ability to do this will encourage the better stewardship of resources for environmental

Program Preferences

Program Preference	Breadth/Magnitude to which Program Preferences will be Met			
	RWPMC	Upper VDC	Garden	SMR Nutrient[1]
			and educating about local native plants. **Equitable Distribution of Benefits:** The Project will provide water supply education, recreation and habitat benefits to an underserved DAC in the Region.	benefits.